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ATLANTA, GA., DECEMBER 18, 1860.

From nearly every part of the northern states come reports of heavy falls of snow, and even so far south as Petersburg, Virginia, the downfall is very great. Very few of the states will have a green Christmas this year.

The government has decided at last to send a commission, composed of Generals Crook and Miles and three civilians, to investigate the case of the Ponca. This is a confession that the previous treatment of these Indians has not been just what it ought to have been.

LEGISLATOR WILLIAMS, of Ohio, a cold man, warns his race against the new Mexican scheme. After a visit to the territory and the designated lands, he pronounces the whole project a selfish and heartless speculation. The colored people of Georgia need no such warning. They are content to fight out the battle of life in the old state.

The rule of his majesty is practically suspended in a good part of Ireland, and the government is greatly troubled in its efforts to bring about a restoration of law and order. The more troops are assembled, the more outbreaks and acts of violence increase. The problem is a serious one, both for the suffering tenants and the perplexed officials. The end can not be foretold.

The condition of Sating Bull and his warriors, who are trying to reach Fort Buford, is said to be pitiable in the extreme. They are in a starving condition, and they act like animals hunted down. The spirit of these red men is wholly broken. They have little ammunition. It is not clear that they have not been sufficiently punished by their banishment to the wilts of the frozen regions of British North America.

PAYNE's land-grabbers are beginning to weaken under the trying influences of cold weather, four inches of snow, and several companies of United States troops. They are talking about retiring with the intention of returning in force next spring. This means a backing down, and that will be the result of the raid, unless the demagogues in congress succeed in inducing these people to commit some act that will lead to bloodshed.

The Ohio senatorial contest has been abruptly ended by the withdrawal of Governor Foster. He claims that he could have been elected, but in the interest of party he gives Secretary Sherman a clear track to the senate chamber. This simplifies matters for the president-elect and the great host of cabinet makers. A new cabinet throughout now becomes a strong probability, but it will of course contain an Ohio man. Governor Foster is generally thought to be

The Hospital fair, now in progress at the Young Men's library building should not be forgotten by those who have money to spare for the poor and the suffering. And who has not at Christmastide? In no way can a given amount of money be made to do so much good as by giving it to the Sisters of Charity who have charge of the Atlanta hospital. This noble institution is not endowed; it draws nothing from the public treasury; it depends entirely upon the charities of the people; it is open to all alike, and will not deny the ladies who give their lives to the sick and the suffering the means necessary to carry on their work. Let everybody visit the fair this week.

SECTIONALISM.

We have upon more than one occasion paid a passing tribute to the active intelligence which marks the editorial conduct of the *Spanish* Ishmaelite. The interest which we feel in the columns of our contemporary, however, is frequently perplexed—we will not say wounded—by the somewhat startling and altogether grievous epithet with which the editor substitutes for discussion, in the case of our esteemed contemporaries, this ready display of narrow-mindedness is mere wantonness, for we know of few newspaper writers who are more thoroughly equipped for discussion, or who have less excuse for fleeing to the environments of controversy. This is the more exasperating when we remember how singularly effective a force the Ishmaelite might be in leading, directing and controlling the new social, political and intellectual forces which are already making themselves manifest as the inevitable outcome of a new condition of things at the south—as the result of the revolution in our affairs which, whatever else may be said about it, must first of all be recognized as a fact.

In the last number of our esteemed contemporary there appears an essay on "sectionalism" in which the editor has managed to compress all the incongruities of the controversial method. He blossoms forth as the advocate of what he is pleased to term "sectionalism," having first advised his readers that a good many have denounced it as something terrible and exceedingly sinful from a patriotic standpoint. He declares that these denunciations of sectionalism are ridiculous and hypocritical, for the reason that sectionalism is simply the love of country; in a wide sense, the love of the United States; in a narrower sense, the love of state, or county, or locality. According to the Ishmaelite, those who denounce sectionalism are not agreed as to the meaning of the term, and the editor, in the accommodating spirit of controversy, comes to their rescue by explaining that it means the love of the state, or county, or locality. According to the Ishmaelite, those who denounce sectionalism are not agreed as to the meaning of the term, and the editor, in the accommodating spirit of controversy, comes to their rescue by explaining that it means the love of the state, or county, or locality. According to the Ishmaelite, those who denounce sectionalism are not agreed as to the meaning of the term, and the editor, in the accommodating spirit of controversy, comes to their rescue by explaining that it means the love of the state, or county, or locality.

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amplification of the love of home, the Ishmaelite proceeds to kick and cuff a man of straw of his own manufacture. This man of straw, knowing no south, no north, no east and no west, is in some sort a Benedict Arnold, because he knows none of these sections, he cannot love them—and if he is not a sectionalist, he loves neither his country nor his home. This is about the breath and strength of the logic of our esteemed contemporary, and it must be admitted that the man of straw comes out of the conflict somewhat bruised and bleeding, and without a decent garment to hide the material of which he is framed.

We have no sympathy with the straw-man, but the amusing figure is made to represent by implication all who, in the recent campaign or in previous ones, have taken occasion to deplore the existence of a spirit of sectionalism at the north, which could be appealed to and played upon by the republican demagogues and partisans. Among others, THE CONSTITUTION has made bold to deplore these manifestations of sectionalism. Democratic and honest republicans everywhere have deplored them, and they were a leading topic among the democratic representatives at Cincinnati. But it would be humiliating to suppose that any reader of THE CONSTITUTION or any democrat anywhere has misinterpreted what has been said upon the subject. It would be worse than humiliating to believe that anybody could interpret the protests against sectionalism as an effort to convince the people of either the north or the south that it is wrong to love their country or their section. It is to be presumed that the straw-man which the Ishmaelite has created will remain dumb hereafter, as becomes a defenseless effigy that has been so soundly abused, but the word "sectionalism" will continue to be applied in a political sense to those manifestations of sectional hate and distrust which have operated so grievously against the industrial progress of the country.

Georgia in Congress.

At the first call of the session for bills and resolutions, Mr. Stephens presented a bill relative to the melting and refining of bullion. Mr. Nicholls presented, through the petition-bill, a bill to appropriate \$50,000 for the improvement of the Chattahoochee river. Mr. Stephens presented the petition of J. L. Hyman, of Riddleville, and other citizens of Washington and Johnson counties, for an extension of the post-route from Lathrop and Redding to Wrightville.

Senators Hill and Brown voted to authorize the president to make Fiz-Jones' bill a reality, and the bill was passed in that shape. In the house an effort was made to take up the Wood refunding bill, and the yeas and nays were called on the petition to give it precedence. Messrs. Blount, Cook, Felton, Hammond and Nicholls voted "no"; Messrs. Speer and Stephens voted "no"; Messrs. Persons and Smith were paired. The motion was carried.

The Burnside educational bill was taken up last Wednesday, and Senators Morrill and Brown discussed it at considerable length.

The speeches of each senator were "held for revision." In the house Mr. Nicholls obtained unanimous consent to have the bill taken from the speaker's table for present consideration, to authorize the construction of a fixed bridge over the St. Mary's river. Mr. Conger opposed its passage, and it was, after being read twice, referred to the committee on commerce. This is the bill that was introduced by Senator Brown in the interest of the Jacksonville short-cut railroad. Later on the bill was, on motion of Mr. Nicholls, taken from the committee on commerce, and returned to the speaker's table.

The speech of Governor Brown on the educational bill appears in the Record of last Friday. The bill was further discussed on Thursday, and Senator Hoar in his remarks on the appropriation for at least one technical school in each state, submitted the following statistics in relation to the university of Georgia:

1. Objects—Those contemplated in the act of 1852.

2. Endowment—Proceeds of the sale of land \$42,302 invested \$1,700.

3. The University of Georgia is divided between the University of Georgia and the branch schools of Athens and Franklin, Columbia, Milledgeville, and Gainesville. From these the yearly expenses have been received.

4. Faculty—Eight professors.

5. Students—In 1857 there were 70, all males.

6. Graduates—Since organized in 1872, 48.

7. Expenses—Fees of \$500 a year.

8. Appliance—Farm of 45 acres under cultivation; chemical laboratory for 60 students, physical

and medical departments.

The world never hears any really serious complaints of injustice until the people begin to resist the exactions of monopolies.

Mr. BERNARD has again asked for a bill to regulate railroad fares and rates. His bill is evidently not keeping up with current events in Georgia.

Mr. ALFRED FIFIS asserts that a state cannot regulate railroad fares and rates.

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